

REMARKS

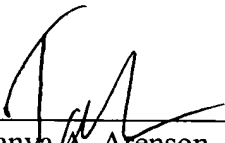
In the Office Action mailed 5/15/06, the Examiner restricted Claims 1-14 into the following groups: Group I (Claims 1-7, drawn to embodiments comprising detecting mRNA), Group II (Claims 1-7, drawn to embodiments comprising detecting polypeptides), Group III (Claims 8-10), Group IV (Claims 11-12); and Group V (claims 13-14). Applicants herein elect, without traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group II (Claims 1-7, drawn to embodiments comprising detecting polypeptides). Applicants also herein cancel Claims 8-14 in order to further their business interests and the prosecution of the present application, yet without acquiescing to the Examiner's arguments, and while preserving the right to prosecute the canceled (or similar) claims in the future.

The Examiner has further required the Applicants to elect a single marker from Claim 1. The Applicants elect the marker GSTM4 without traverse.

CONCLUSION

If a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned collect at (618) 218-6900.

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